California Department of Social Services

CHILD WELFARE DIGITAL SERVICES UPDATE



VISION STATEMENT

We will establish and maintain an innovative statewide 21st century information technology application that aids child welfare stakeholders in assuring the safety, permanency, and well-being of children at risk of abuse and neglect.

The agile development approach adopted in November 2015 has fundamentally changed how the project thinks about how it will achieve its goal of ensuring the safety, permanency and well-being of California's children through technological means. Rather than building an ultimate, one-time solution, we will instead develop a suite of applications through which we can deliver continually-improving, quality digital services that aid state and county workers to effectively engage and assist children and families. The agile approach has also required even closer collaboration between existing and new partners. In order to promote cohesiveness across the organization, and better describe the goals it intends to achieve, the organization has renamed itself Child Welfare Digital Services (CWDS).

MILESTONES

Milestones are significant events essential to the critical path of the CWDS Project.

IT PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY

CDSS and OSI, in close collaboration with CWDA, are continuing work to reformulate the monolithic Request for Proposal (RFP) into a set of smaller modular procurements that will accommodate an agile approach towards designing, developing and implementing digital services. This approach will allow the CWDS to build digital services based on user-centered design, more quickly provide business value to our users by deploying services in an iterative, incremental fashion and reduce overall risks to the Project.

Current RFP Procurements	RFP Release Date	Final Proposal Deadline	Contract Award
API RFP	12/21/2015	2/11/2016	4/1/2016
Intake Module RFP	12/21/2015	3/11/2016	5/12/2016

Upcoming Procurements:

- Implementation for Intake RFP to bring on a vendor to provide implementation readiness and county support and ensure the migration of users from the legacy CWS/CMS system to the new intake module goes smoothly.
- Licensing Module Procurement functions to include services that support the protection of the health, safety and quality of life of children in out of home care. Some functions include documenting inspections and complaints, processing of applications for licensure and tracking of facilities and homes that are non-compliant.
- Case Management Module Procurement to begin the migration of case management requirements some of which include service delivery and documentation needs for in home and out of home service cases.

IMPLEMENTATION ADVANCE PLANNING DOCUMENT (IAPD)

The Administration for Children, Youth and Families (ACYF) has agreed to allow the Project to submit the new IAPD in increments over time. This coincides with the agile approach in that the State will provide ACYF IAPD information for the near term and then provide updates on an incremental basis as more information becomes available.

BUDGET

The Governor's budget included an additional state position, two additional Independent Project Oversight Consultants and converting existing limited term state positions to permanent with limited term funding. However, the Governor's Budget was not updated to reflect the change in the procurement and development approach from a monolithic RFP with a single systems integrator to a modular procurement approach using an agile development approach. The CWDS budget will be updated in the next steps of the State's budget process.

PROCUREMENTS & STAFFING

PENDING PROCUREMENTS

There are thirteen County Consultant vacancies.

New positions were added in order to support the CWDS Project with its iterative procurements and the design, development and implementation of these digital services. The CWDA is coordinating the recruitment efforts for the following positions:

- Probation County Consultant
- Intake Module County Consultant
- Eligibility Module County Consultant
- Case Management Module County Consultant (six positions)
- Licensing Module County Consultant
- Administrative Module County Consultant (two positions)
- Platform Module County Consultant

The following link is available for county staff interested in applying: http://www.cwda.org/information-technology

To reinforce the Project's new agile methodology, seven additional procurements are now pending:

- Agile Coach Consultant
- Agile Project Management Consultant
- Media and Brand Management Consultant
- Technical Architect Engineer Consultant
- User Research and Design Consultant
- ACYF Advisor Consultant
- Security Consultant

STATE STAFFING

The Office of Systems Integration currently has three vacancies.

The Project continues to conduct a resource assessment to determine staffing changes which may need to take place in order to support the execution of the Project's new direction to implement an agile methodology. As part of this assessment, three current IT vacancies will be recruited for experience in the agile methodology and as Scrum Masters. The Project is in the process of obtaining approvals to recruit these positions.

The California Department of Social Services currently has two vacancies.

The vacancies on the Project's program side continue to be recruited for experienced and current Child Welfare Services SMEs for state policy and oversight to support the CWDS effort.

RISKS & ISSUES

The Project team is assessing existing risks and issues to determine if they are still applicable given the Project's change in direction from a monolithic approach to an agile approach. There has been no new risks or issues identified during the past month.